Claims

We claim:

- 1. A Salmonella microorganism having an attenuating mutation which disrupts the expression of a gene located within the Spi2 pathogenicity island, and an auxotrophic mutation.
- 2. The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the auxotrophic mutation disrupts the expression of an *aro* gene.
 - 3. The microorganism according to claim 2, wherein the aro gene is aroC.
- 4. The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the attenuating mutation disrupts the expression of an apparatus gene located within Spi2.
- 5. The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the attenuating mutation disrupts the expression of any of the ssaV, ssaJ, ssaK or ssaM genes.
- 6. The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the attenuating mutation disrupts ssaV and the auxotrophic mutation disrupts aroC.
- 7. The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the attenuating mutation is within an intergenic region between ssaK and ssaJ.
- 8. The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the microorganism further comprises a heterologous antigen or a therapeutic protein.

- 9. The microorganism according to claim 8, wherein the antigen is a hepatitis A, B or C antigen.
- 10. The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the microorganism is Salmonella typhi Ty2.
- 11. The microorganism according to claim 1, wherein the microorganism is the microorganism designated herein as ZH9 or WT05.
- 12. A vaccine composition comprising a microorganism according to claim 1, and an adjuvant and a physiologically acceptable diluent.
- 13. The vaccine composition according to claim 12, comprising from about 10^7 to about 10^{10} CFUs in a single dosage unit.
- 14. The vaccine composition according to claim 13, comprising from about 10⁸ to about 10⁹ CFUs in a single dosage unit.
- 15. A method for treating or preventing a Salmonella infection, comprising administering to a patient a microorganism according to claim 1.
 - 16. The method according to claim 15, for the treatment of typhoid.